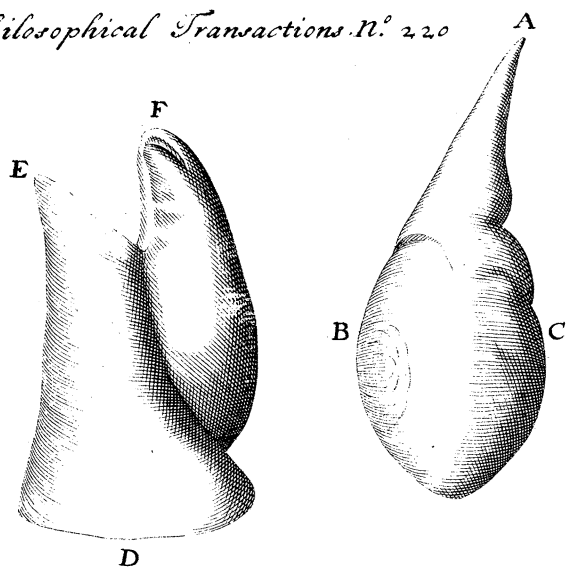

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VI. *A Letter from Mr.* Charles Bernard, *giving an Account of Two large Stones, were for twenty Years paſt Lodg'd in the* Meatus Urinarius, *and thence cut out by him the 28th of* September *laſt.*

I Am neither to deny nor defer giving you the Hiſtory of thoſe Stones which I lately cut out of the *Urethra* of a Gentleman, who had born them there many years, without knowing what his Diſtemper was. And however averſe I may be from an Attempt of this kind, either from the natural Lazineſs of my temper, or the ſence of my own Inability; yet I take this to be a caſe ſurpriſing and unuſual, that the Publick ſeems to exact it from me, altho' I did not ſtand engag'd to you by my promiſe for the Performance.

A caſe ſo very rare and extraordinary, that (with all its circumſtances conſidered) I ſhall not fear to pronounce it the ſingle inſtance of the kind; my own Experience, I confeſs, is too narrow for me to pretend to have met with the like: And ſure I am, that among the few Books of which I am poſſeſs'd, and with which I have been converſant, I cannot find any example which holds any proportion with this; to have a Stone lodg'd in the *Meatus Urinarius*, and to be thence cut out, is no uncommon Accident, but is what, at one time or other, occurs in the Practice of moſt Men; but to have Stones of ſuch a Magnitude, manifeſtly lodg'd in this part for near Twenty Years together, and the Diſeaſe never diſcovered, and no reaſonable attempts made towards the Relief of the Patient, to thoſe who have the Story only upon the Authority of the Relator, will ſeem altogether incredible.

J. Bau-

J. Bauhine indeed met once with a Caſe, in a Nameſake of my own, who had, *aliquot calculos*, ſome Stones which lay moveable in the middle of the *Urethra*, for the ſpace of a Twelve-month, about the bigneſs of Cherry-Stones, one of which at length was voided, the other which remained (which, whether ever remov'd or not, is not ſaid) continued ſomething incommodious to his making Water, tho' without any remarkable Pain. This was thought *Mirabilis affectus antè non viſus*, If that were ſo wonderful, what ſhall we conclude of that which I am about to relate.

About a Fortnight ſince, I was carried to Dr. *Beaufort*, to one Mr. *Blondel*, a Gentleman, whom he had lately recovered from a Feveriſh Indiſpoſition; from which, when he found himſelf Relieved, he complained to the Doctor of a very hard Swelling, a little behind the *Scrotum*, which had remained there many Years, and created great uneaſineſs to him. The Doctor looking upon it, told him 'twas Surgeons Work, and was pleaſed to adviſe him to ſend for me. The next Morning we went together, and upon Examining it only with my Fingers, I immediately declared it to be a Stone of a very odd and irregular Figure; and that there was no way of Removing it, or Relieving him, but by cutting it out. He was very much Dejected with the Apprehenſion of another Operation; having about twenty Years ſince, while a Lad, been Cut by Mr. *Hollier* for the Stone in the Bladder, and in great danger from it: But conſidering the Miſery of his Life, and upon my aſſuring him, that it would not be attended with the Danger and Difficulty which are dreaded, upon the Extraction of a Stone out of the Bladder; and that there was no Proſpect of Relief by any other Method, he determined to ſubmit to the Operation.

But before I proceed to give the Relation of that, order ſeems to require, that you ſhould have an Account of the Diſeaſe, and the Symptomes antecedent; as well as I could my ſelf be inſtructed, he had not long Recovered from under Mr. *Hollier*'s Care, before he began to complain of Pain, which reſembled his old Pain of the Stone; and this continued upon him for 4 or 5 Years, before he was ſenſible of any Fullneſs or Swelling in *Perinæo*, which you are to ſuppoſe at firſt but ſmall. I am inclined to believe, that Mr. *Hollier* left either a couple of little Stones, or pieces of Stone at the time of Extraction, which were by degrees protruded into the *Vrethra*; but being too big to be voided, there lodged themſelves, and ſo by perpetual accretion, arrived to that Magnitude which you ſee. He conſtantly complained of Pain in making Water, which ordinarily flow'd *guttatim*, and involuntarily for ſeveral Years paſt. Nor was he longer at eaſe, then while his Bladder was full and diſtended with Urine; which Diſtention was continued all along the Neck and the *Vrethra*, as far as where the Stones were bedded; for his only way of procuring eaſe to himſelf, was by frequent drinking very large quantities of ſmall Beer or Water; and as ſoon as the Separation could be made of the Urine into the Bladder; and while that continued full, he was ſenſible of ſome eaſe. He has been likewiſe exceeding liable to Vomiting of late, and generally moleſted with a *Diarrhæa* for ſome Years paſt; both which had lately ſo encreaſed upon him, as very much to have impaired his Health, and weakned his Conſtitution.

I am now only to tell you, that having prepared him with ſuch Evacuations, as are proper to precede ſuch an Operation, on *Monday* the 28th of *September* laſt; I perform'd it, by cutting upon the moſt protuberant part of the Stone, (which I then ſuppoſed to be but one) and

and making my Inciſion pretty large, the upper part, which proved a diſtinct Stone, and had form'd it ſelf a Socket in the lowermoſt, ſlipt out with little or no difficulty; the other, which was forked, and was as it were bound in, as if it had adhered to the *Urethra*, was remov'd with more trouble, and broke in the taking out, they being neither of them very hard. There was not an Ounce of Blood loſt in the Operation; the Stones having lodged long there, you muſt imagine had made a very great Diſtention of the *Urethra*, ſo that it was become ſo callous, that I ſeem'd to cut through a Cartilage: The Stones being thus taken out, I had nothing elſe to do but to Dreſs up the Wound, which continues in a very good Condition, tho' we have to do with a very ſhattered and capricious Conſtitution of Body. I had almoſt forgot to tell you, that to facilitate my removal of that Stone which was locked in, I put two of my Fingers up his Fundament, to ſecure it from retiring towards his Bladder; and to my ſurprize I found, that one of the Angles of it had perforated into the *Anus*, which the Nurſe hearing me mention to the Doctor, reply'd, that 'twas no wonder that in the Morning ſhe was not able to paſs up the Clyſter-pipe.

Yours, &c.

The Figure and poſition of the Stones deſerve your Notice.

A *The Point which tended towards the Glans.*
B *That part which lay in the* Acetabulum.
C *The part upon which I made Inciſion.*
D *The* Acetabulum.
E *The point which lay towards the Neck of the Bladder.*
F *That which had Perforated into the* Anus.

VII.